

# **Acupuncture Services in an Out-Patient Methadone Maintenance Program (MMTP)**

**Presented by:**

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# History of Acupuncture Services at the Hartford Dispensary

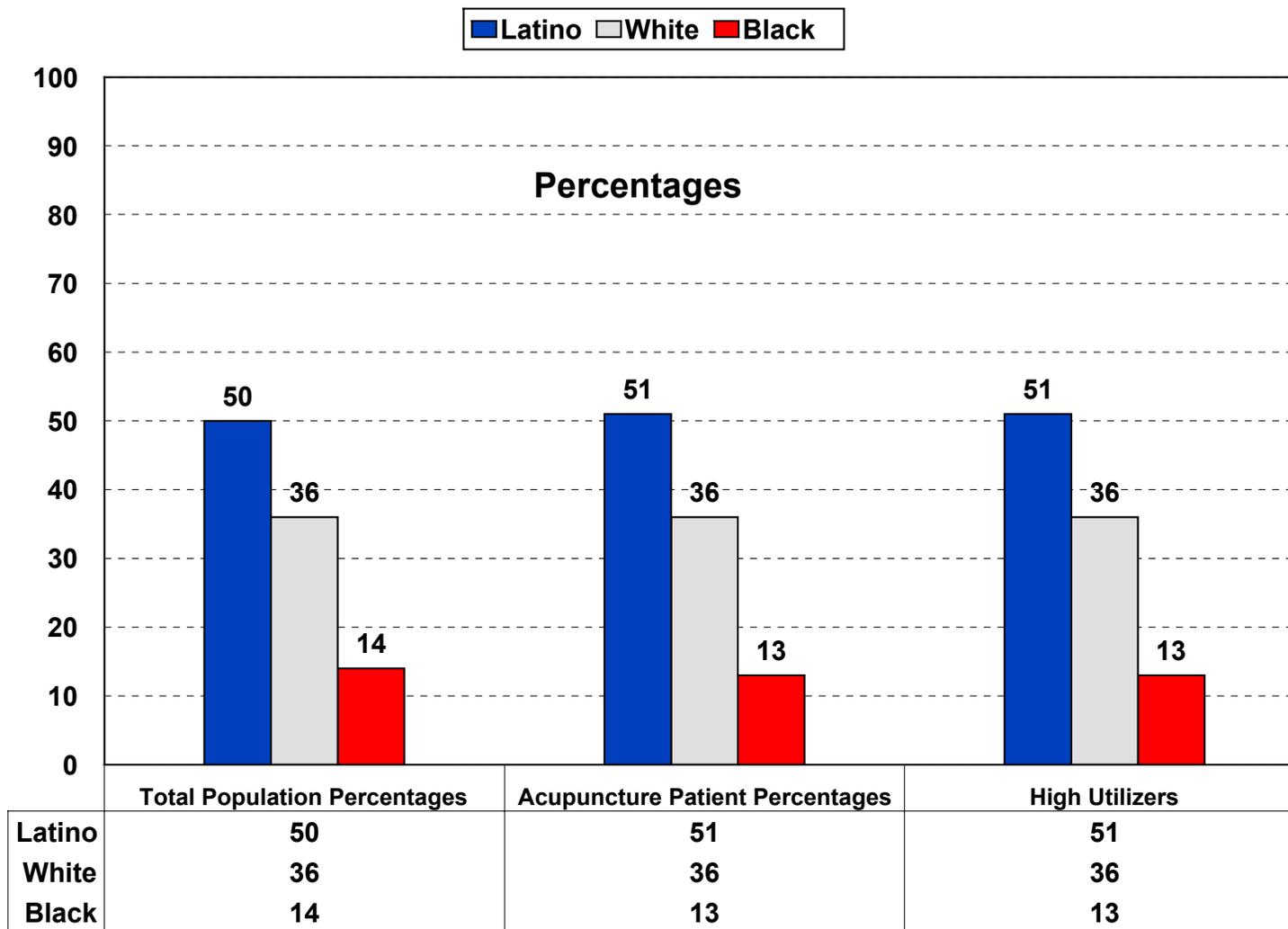
◆ Year	Location	Staff	Total Sessions	Patient Eligibility
◆ 1996	1	1 Contract	750	HIV/AIDS
◆ 1997	2	2 Contract	1,600	HIV/AIDS
◆ 1998	2	2 Contract	2,200	HIV/AIDS
◆ 1999	2	2 In-house	3,601	All Patients
◆ 2000	2	3 In-house	6,265	All Patients
◆ 2001	2	3 In-house	10,958	All Patients

# 2001 Utilization of Acupuncture Services

- ◆ **Total Unduplicated MMTP Patients Served:** **2337**
- ◆ **Patients using Acupuncture:** **680** **29%**
- ◆ **Patients using 25 visits or more:** **117** **17%**
  - ◆ **Range of sessions: 25 - 150**
  - ◆ **Total sessions utilized by 117:** **7911** **72%**
- ◆ **Total Acupuncture session** **10,955**

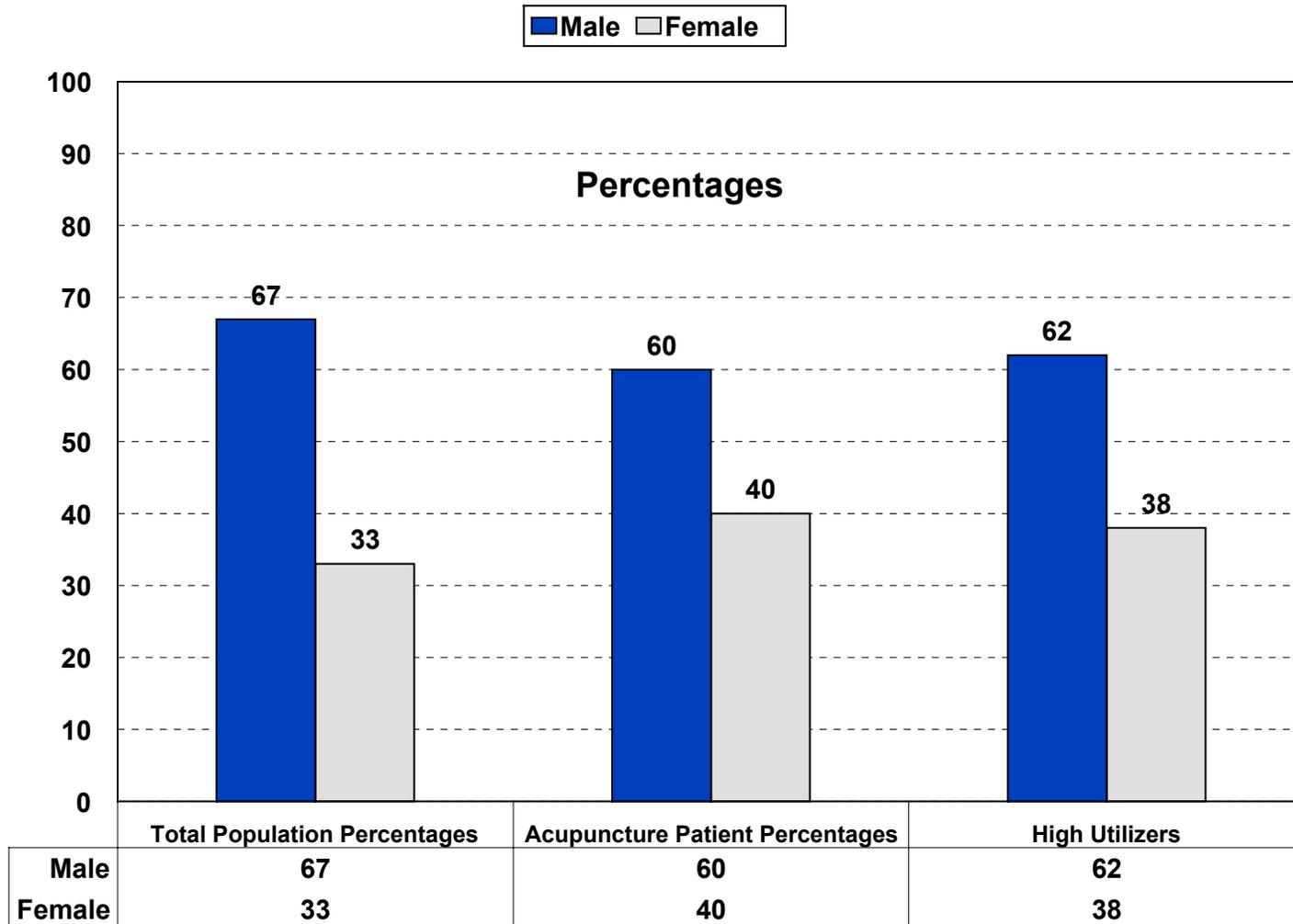
# Utilization of Acupuncture Services -Ethnicity

Hartford Dispensary- Patient Utilization of Acupuncture



# Utilization of Acupuncture Services - Gender

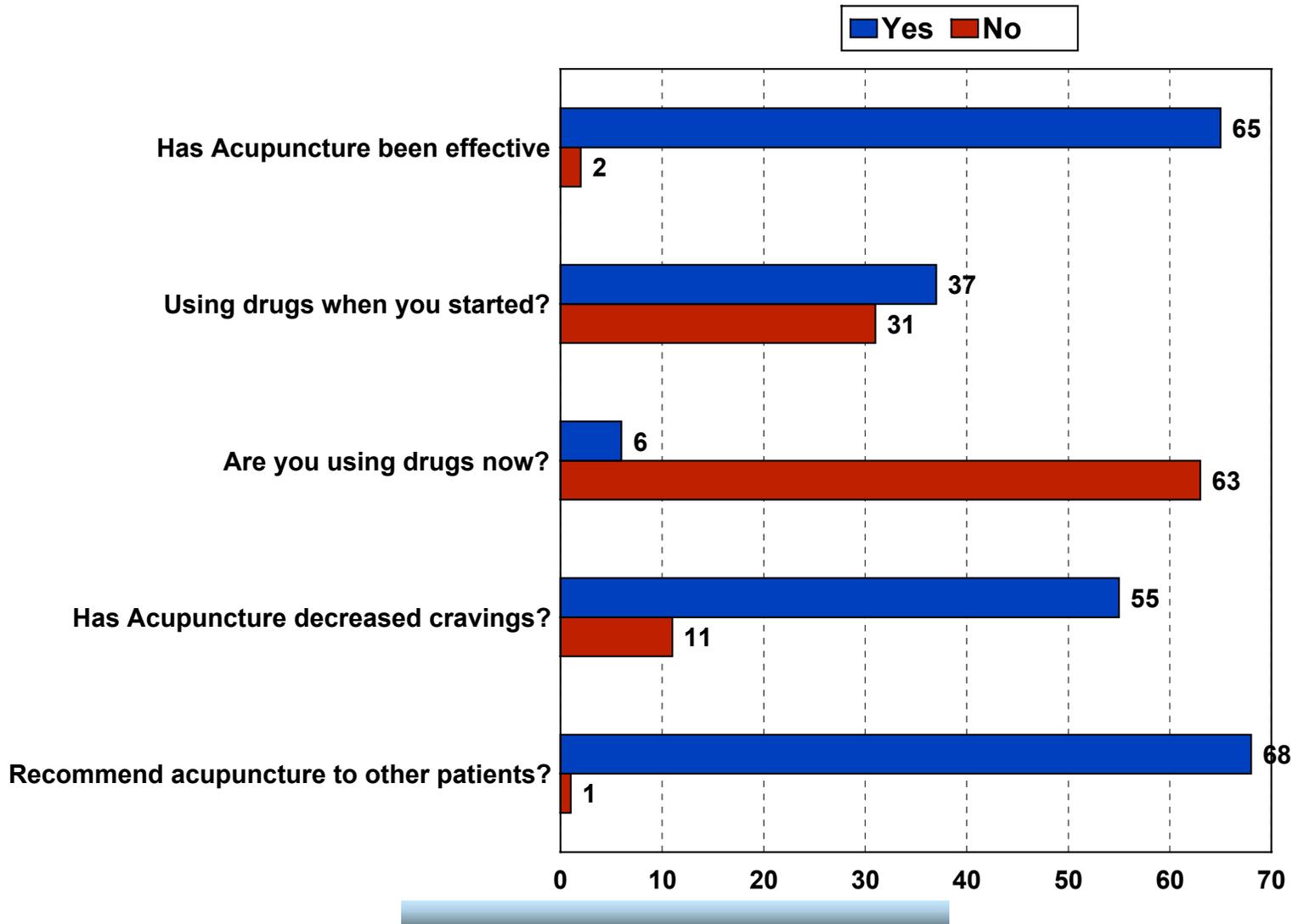
Hartford Dispensary: Patient Utilization of Acupuncture - Gender



# Patient Evaluation of Acupuncture Services - 2002

Hartford Dispensary: 70 Acupuncture Surveys - February 2002

Patient Evaluation



# Observations of Acupuncture Services

- ◆ **A useful, highly utilized ancillary service that is supported by staff.**
- ◆ **A service that is particularly attractive for a certain group of patients.**
- ◆ **No ethnic or gender differences in utilization of services.**
- ◆ **Using in-house Acupuncture staff supports a holistic, interdisciplinary approach.**
- ◆ **Cost effective, safe, and no complaints or adverse events occurred over 6 years.**
- ◆ **Adequate, quite, space is essential to successful services.**

# Acupuncture Research Opportunities

- ◆ **Does an Acupuncture program integrated with traditional treatment measurably improve outcomes when compared to traditional treatment only? Outcomes such as:**
  - ◆ **Retention of patients in treatment.**
  - ◆ **Decreased use of illicit drugs and abuse of legal drugs.**
  - ◆ **Enhancement of overall program compliance.**
- ◆ **What are the identifying characteristics of both high Acupuncture utilizers and low utilizers?**
- ◆ **Is there a minimum threshold of sessions required to achieve either satisfaction or clinical outcome?**